

Missouri National Guard



State
Emergency/Active Duty
Response
(1993-2013)

From the Adjutant General

Maj. Gen. Steve Danner

Since 1636, the oldest component of the United States' armed forces has stood watch over the people of this great nation. Our National Guardsmen have taken and fulfilled an oath to protect the people of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. From Jamestown to Jalalabad, our Citizen-Soldiers have answered the nation's call.

What distinguishes the National Guard from other American military forces is our domestic mission. Our mission is not limited to fighting enemy armies and insurgents, but extends to protecting our state in times of need. For the Guard, that has historically meant helping people before, during and after natural disasters and state emergencies. Today, that support extends even further as we support communities through numerous National Guard programs. A few of these programs are Show-Me Heroes, transition assistance and Yellow Ribbon events.

Our stateside mission has evolved during the past few years. In 2011, after a tornado struck Newton and Jasper counties, the Guard worked with the Division of Workforce Development to administer the Disaster Recovery Jobs Program. Our Soldiers and Airmen remained on duty for nearly two years after the disaster to ensure that community received the support it needed. Because those efforts were so successful, Gov. Nixon gave the Guard another assignment to help SEMA ensure communities across the state received reimbursement for disaster costs through Operation Cold Case.

Although many states enjoy predictable weather patterns and mild seasons, the Show-Me State is not one of them. They say, "If you don't like the weather in Missouri, just wait five minutes." As I write this in January 2013, the temperature has gone from 10 degrees on inauguration day, to a high of 65 the following Saturday, and back down to 20 degrees today. Meteorologists are predicting temperatures in the mid-60s this weekend. The only thing predictable about Missouri's weather is that it'll be unpredictable.

But if the weather is unpredictable, the state has faced it with one certainty: the Guard will always be there to protect good people from bad things. From early Militia Soldiers helping communities struck by the New Madrid earthquake through the Great Flood of 1993, to the 2011 Joplin tornado, our Guardsmen and their forbearers have responded quickly and effectively to our state's needs.

Since 9/11, we've responded to dozens of emergencies in Missouri and around the nation. At the same time, we've fulfilled our federal obligation deploying more than 11,500 Soldiers and approximately 2,000 Airmen to support overseas contingency operations. Whether our troops were in Afghanistan, Iraq, the Sinai, Guam, Kosovo, Qatar or anywhere else they were needed, they could always rest assured that their brothers and sisters in arms were protecting the homeland. When Iraq and Afghanistan were both active missions, the question, "Do we have enough Guardsmen at home if the worst happens?" was not just an academic exercise for many states. In Missouri, we knew the answer. Even with thousands of Guardsmen deployed, thousands more at home unfailingly answered the call to help not only in Missouri, but throughout the nation. Whether it was sending 2,400 Missourians to aid the Gulf region after Hurricane Katrina or mobilizing more than 2,000 Soldiers and Airmen to aid Missouri communities during the disasters of 2011, the Missouri National Guard unfailingly accomplished every mission it was assigned.

This document is a proud testament to our history of serving the people of Missouri when disaster strikes at home. Our responsibilities to our state in times of crisis comprise half of our dual state/federal mission illustrates what makes the Guard unique. We are, in the end, a community based organization with a global reach. We are Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen who are always ready, always there, locally and globally. We are the Missouri National Guard.



Introduction

Just how far back the history of the Missouri National Guard goes in time in the support of the State of Missouri can be debated as the scarcity of records limits the case that can be made. What is not up for debate is the integral role the Missouri National Guard currently has during state emergencies and disasters and that it has been answering that call in a varying capacity for many years. This study traces the history of the Missouri National Guard's state mission, including the evolution of its role and the wide range of missions the Guard has taken on in order to support Missouri's governor and the citizens.

The Modern National Guard as we know it today did not exist until key acts by Congress were passed, such as the Dick Act of 1903 and the National Defense Act of 1916. Like all states, early state military forces were referred to as the "militia" and our lineage is no different. Our current historical records reveal, as an organization, the Missouri National Guard traces its origin to Yost's Tavern (St. Louis) of 1808.

The scope of emergency response has been refined over the decades as the Missouri National Guard has evolved from early, ragtag militias into a seasoned, professional force. In the 21st Century, the Missouri National Guard has an additional advantage of being a part of a larger, cohesive response force. If the worst case scenario unfolded, the Missouri Guard would be able to draw on the resources of every state and territory.

The greatest calamity to strike what we know of as Missouri today, struck an area in our state just over 200 years ago, is known today as "The Great New Madrid Earthquakes of 1811-1812." There are no written records of a military response, but militia units existed in the area and we can be sure they responded as the impact left obvious destruction from the southeast border all the way to St. Louis. Ironically, this apocalyptic event still drives the National Guard to be prepared for the need for any emergency response today. "Vigilant Guard" is an example of a key annual scenario-based exercise to help prepare and evaluate the state's ability to respond to the worst case emergency situation.

The scope of emergency response has been narrowed and more clearly defined as the Missouri National Guard has evolved, but does not limit our capabilities, if so needed. From the records we have been able to preserve, the following are some examples of how wide the scope of response has been at times through the history of the Guard and militia.

By constantly training for the worst-case scenario, Missouri has been able to respond to dozens of serious but smaller-scale disasters during the past two centuries. Historical records provide a rich history of the Guard's state mission and its ever-growing ability to support the state. Many are conventional, like sandbagging during a flood or performing search and rescue missions after a tornado. Others, including call-ups for workers strikes and race riots, give modern researchers insight into the Guard's role during some of the nation's more troubled times. All of these missions demonstrate the professionalism and flexibility that have always been hallmarks of the Guard.

So it comes as no surprise, a majority of Missouri National Guard missions have directly involved flood duty. Records reflect as early as 1903 that the 3rd Regiment of Kansas City was called out to do general guard duty and protect property from vandals. Comments were made in the Adjutant-General report that the National Guard was the most effective force to deal with the situation. It then became clear and acceptable for the state to call on the Guard to deal with the serious flood events across the state as we have witnessed numerous responses in the last few decades.

Tornadoes and severe weather appears from the available records to give reason for the governor to call on the National Guard on numerous occasions. From some early records, the year 1927 was an active year of tornados with Poplar Bluff being supported by many companies from the 140th Infantry. A few months later, the St. Louis area was hit hard along with numerous other towns to include Poplar Bluff. This has been recorded as one of the worst tornados in Missouri and national history. Approximately 500 Guardsmen were called to duty, most from the 138th Infantry and 128th Artillery. Interesting enough support also came from the 35th Division Air Service and the Missouri Naval Militia. Tornados continue to be a key mission for the Guard to respond to due to our quick response capabilities and close proximity. Ice storms and hurricanes have been added to the list of events more recently as needing a National Guard response.

In the early days of the Guard and militia labor unrest and riots were reoccurring missions. One of the first responses to a strike came in 1877 when 30,000 militia members across multiple states were called to arms to include Missouri. In fact this response lingered on until 1881; most of the unrest involving Missouri was in St. Louis.

Riots, often stemming from racial issues, were another source of call-ups. In the fall of 1901, Pierce City experienced racial violence after a black suspect was lynched for the alleged rape and murder of a white woman. The riots that followed required an intervention by the local Guard unit. In other cases, uprisings at the prison would force the governor to call up the National Guard to intervene. In 1954, there was a major riot at the Missouri State Penitentiary in Jefferson City. In addition to numerous law enforcement units responding, over 500 National Guardsmen were called in to help quell the riot.

Note that the last time the governor has had to request the assistance of the National Guard to intervene during a strike or riot was in the year 1948.

The paragraphs above describe the general emergencies and disasters the Missouri National Guard has responded to when called to do so. The following are some of the more unique responses.

One of the most serious coal mine strikes in the history of the country occurred in the fall of 1919 impacting the central states, to include Missouri. Most of the people in the heart of the country were without fuel to cook their food or warmth to keep them from suffering. What finally brought action by the governor of Missouri, was when various state institutions were entirely out of coal. The governor then seized control of the Barton County coal mines and chose the Missouri National Guard to operate the mines. The strike only lasted seven days. It may be stated that if the operation had continued under Guard control for a week more, output would have doubled and cost per ton shipped would have been much less. The Guard's vigorous effort most likely had the desired effect of ending the strike promptly and returning the mines back to the owners.

June 14, 1933 marked the beginning of one of the most notorious manhunts in Missouri history that required the assistance of the Missouri National Guard. It was an unusually mild summer day in Columbia. Missouri Highway Patrol Sgt. Ben Booth called Sheriff Roger Wilson for assistance locating two suspects wanted for a bank robbery in Mexico, Mo. Sheriff's deputies today are reminded every time they travel to the department on Roger I. Wilson Drive of the events which unfolded that day near the intersection of present day Business Loop 70 and Rangeline. Those two suspects turned out to be Francis McNeily and his brother-in-law, convicted felon George McKeever.

Sheriff Wilson, two days past his 43rd birthday, died at the scene. Sgt. Booth, 37, a husband and father of two small children, died on the way to Boone County Hospital. For two days National Guardsmen

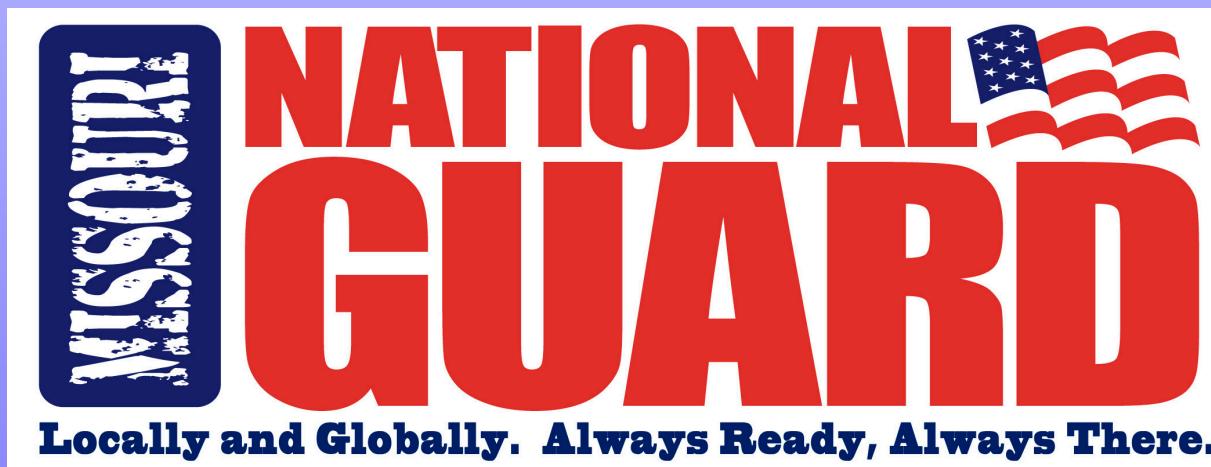
manned the many roadblocks and National Guard airplanes buzzed the clear blue skies like hawks in search of two cold-blooded killers. Orders were given to shoot at any vehicle not stopping at a roadblock. Unfortunately, the efforts of the Guard those two days were unsuccessful.

The break in the case came in October 1934 when police and Missouri Highway Patrol Capt. Lewis Means (later to be the 39th Missouri TAG) arrested McNeily at a farm in Allerton, Iowa. McNeily confessed to the killing and implicated McKeever, who at this time was serving a bank robbery sentence in the North Dakota State Penitentiary. In exchange for turning state's evidence against McKeever, McNeily was given a life sentence for the murder of Sheriff Wilson. McKeever was found guilty and sentenced to death, in what was the last legal hanging in the state of Missouri on December 18, 1936.

The Guard has also served as a deterrent for violence. In 1976, Governor Kit Bond called upon the Missouri National Guard to support the civil authorities in maintenance of law and order, protection of life and property, in Kansas City during the Republican National Convention. Because of the large crowds and a charged political atmosphere following Vietnam and the Watergate scandal, it was believed there was a chance of violence. Numerous units were prepared to perform their assigned tasks, but no serious incidents demanded the need to activate any units.

Not all Missouri National Guard state support missions have come on the heels of disasters – some have been honors. Governor Phil M. Donnelly ordered the Guard to help facilitate a visit from the commander-in-chief, President Harry S. Truman. Later, Governor Donnelly requested the Guard to render honors during a Jefferson City ceremony in which Gen. Omar Bradley was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal. Another mission of this time period was not only a special honor for the Guard, but for the state and the nation. The Missouri National Guard provided security and crowd control during Winston Churchill's historic "Iron Curtain" speech in Fulton, Mo., in 1946.

Since then, the Missouri National Guard has continued to serve the state in times of natural disaster, civic unrest, and to support special events in the state. This document offers a glimpse into how the Missouri National Guard has met its state mission since 1993. In that time period, tens of thousands of Citizen-Soldiers and Citizen-Airmen have answered the governor's call to assist civil authorities and the citizens of Missouri in their time of need. From the floods of 1993 through the devastating Joplin tornado of 2011, the Missouri National Guard has proven that it is always ready, always there to protect good people from bad things.



1993 State Emergency Missions

- The Flood of '93:

The flood that swept through Missouri in the summer of 1993 was the largest relief effort by the National Guard. This upcoming summer will be the 20-year anniversary of the crisis. Between July 4 and September 1, approximately 5,000 men and women from 83 of the state's 119 units helped fight the flood. At its peak on July 30, over 3,200 Guard members were on State Emergency Duty in 35 state counties and 85 individual communities. Activities were divided into three task force areas: Northeast, Northwest and Southeast.

Task Force Northeast was the first and longest operational task force, with Lt. Col. Kenneth Gonzales in charge. Task Force Northeast was responsible for the region from St. Charles north to the Iowa state line and was headquartered in the town of Hannibal. The Coast Guard Reserve Unit from Pennsylvania provided six boats and placed them under command of Gonzales. These were especially helpful for rescuing people stranded by rising waters and patrolling the levees. They also opened their own maintenance center to keep the vehicles operational to avoid sending them back to their bases for repairs.

Task Force Northwest was activated on July 12, 1993, headquartered at Rosecrans Air National Guard Base and placed under command of Lt. Col. Carl Firkins. Lt. Col. Firkins' Guard members were responsible for Ray, Carroll, Howard and Chariton counties. Tracing the activities of Task Force Northwest is difficult because on July 25 the levees broke and the entire base was flooded. The 135th Surgical Hospital unit had one of the most difficult jobs. This unit was responsible for withdrawing troops from areas where the civilian population was not entirely certain that the crisis was over. Where the people were anxious, drawing down the Guard needed considerable delicacy and care.

Task Force Southeast was best remembered for saving the historic district of Ste. Genevieve. The city of Ste. Genevieve had not been granted aid to build adequate levees. The city relied on six miles of smaller levees built with money coming from county and state aid. The 1140th Engineers had a crucial and exhausting task of saving the town. The Guardsmen and townsfolk filled 1.1 million sand bags with 25,000 tons of mining waste products. They reinforced and extended the levee south of town. Within a week the city had spent \$1,025,000, and the City

Administrator David Angerer predicted that by the end of the crisis the total cost would be approximately \$16,225,000. This high price tag reveals how costly the protection and clean up was for the state and federal



Rising waters from the swollen Missouri River at Jefferson City nearly engulfed the Capitol, leaving it practically an island.

1993 State Emergency Missions

governments. Another crucial job of Task Force Southeast was helping to keep St. Louis safe. Members of the 1137th Military Power Company, with loaded guns, patrolled areas of St. Louis that had been evacuated. The military policemen transported homeowners to and from dangerous areas, apprehended occupants of small boats on the river, detained juveniles committing vandalism, gave first aid to automobile accident victims, and investigated reports of drowning and DWIs. By July 17, the 1175th Military Police Company from Boonville were called in to assist. These additional MPs were vital in reducing the looting and arson in areas

of St. Louis abandoned at the oncoming of the floods.

Initially Guard members assisted the town of Alexandria by building and maintaining its levees. However the town was difficult to save and was eventually deemed hopeless. The Guard's new objective was to help the civilians move to a safer location. The town eventually succumbed to the flooding, but everyone was safely moved. The members of B Battery of the 128th Artillery, Company D of the 1138th Engineers, and the 2175th Military Police Company were the Soldiers that helped at Alexandria. This initial encounter helped refine the system that made it easier for the 4,229 Guardsmen



Just across the river from the state Capitol; as this picture speaks for itself.

that followed. If a civil task leader needed sand to fill a levee and no civilian contractors were available, Guardsmen could move the sand. They helped move sand to and from affected areas. It was important that the Guard chose the right tasks. If the Guard helped one man protect his livestock then they had to help with everyone equally. So the leaders had to select missions that supported the greater good of the town, since helping everyone individually would be nearly impossible and extremely expensive.

The Guard helped move sand, fill sandbags, maintain levees, fly supplies into affected areas, help evacuate citizens, and supported various miscellaneous missions. The elevated town of Portage Des Sioux became an island due to the flooding. The 1438th Engineer Bridge Company created a huge raft to



A Ribbon Bridge Boat on patrol near Portage de Sioux.

transport supplies, haul sandbags, and manage the evacuation of farm animals. In 40 days of work, they transported 6,271 people and 1,951 vehicles. National Guard Airmen in Hardin, Mo., flew helicopter sorties several times a day to shorten supply lines. They brought food, drinking water, disposable diapers, insect repellent, and even a pair of detectives from Kansas. Guard helicopters also helped in search and rescue mis-

1993 State Emergency Missions

sions, and transported patients to hospitals. Hardin also suffered the unearthing of their cemetery. More than 750 bodies were swept downstream from the 180 year old cemetery. Soldiers from Company A, 110th Engineer Battalion worked side by side for several days with officers of the Missouri State Water Patrol and the Department of Conservation in recovering bodies. A crane was used to lift the caskets into a loading truck which were then sent to a shelter and examined by cemetery directors. It was the worst cemetery disaster in the United States, at last count 183 bodies were still missing and a memorial was held for the 586 bodies recovered.

The Guard members and the community civilians came up with multiple innovations which have been used in future operations. In the Northeast Task Force region, the Guard set up a permanent mechanical shop. Guard members finishing their span of work left their heavy vehicles at the base. This saved the replacement unit having to bring their heavy vehicles, a simple innovation that saved thousands of dollars in transportation and fuel costs. In Ste. Genevieve, the workers used the sand trucks to help fill sandbags. This greatly improved on the extremely exhausting method of two people filling a bag, one holding the bag as the other filled the bag using a shovel.

The following is a list of the Missouri Army Guard units that were involved in the Flood of 1993: Battery A of 129th Field Artillery, Albany; Company A of 203rd Engineer Battalion, Anderson; 1175th Military Police Company, Boonville; 135th Engineer Group, Cape Girardeau; Headquarters 1140th Engineer Battalion, Cape Girardeau; 1137th Military Police Company, Caruthersville; Company A of 1140th Engineer Battalion, Charleston; Battery B of 129th Field Artillery, Chillicothe; Company D of 110th Engineer Battalion, Clinton; Headquarters 128th Field Artillery Battalion, Columbia; 1035th Maintenance Company, De Soto; Company D of 735th Support Battalion, Eldon; Company D of 1140th Engineer Battalion, Farmington; 220th Engineer Company, Festus; 175th Military Police Company, Fulton; Company B of 1140th Engineer Battalion, Fredericktown; 2175th Military Police Company, Hannibal; 1139th Military Police Company, Harrisonville; Battery D of 129th Field Artillery Troop Command, Independence; Company A of 1140th Engineer Battalion, Jackson; Headquarters State Area Command, 70th Public Affairs Detachment, 1035th Maintenance Company, 1121st Transportation Company, 35th Division Support Command, 735th Maintenance Battalion, 635th Aviation, Jefferson City; 1137th Military Police Company, Company A of 1138th Engineer Battalion, Battery A of 128th Field Artillery, Headquarters 1138th Engineer Battalion, Company B of 110th Engineer Battalion, 880th Engineer Battalion, Jefferson Barracks; Headquarters, Company A, Company B, of 110th Engineer Battalion, 135th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, Kansas City; 1137th Military Police Company, Kennett; Battery B of 128th Field Artillery, Kirksville; Company



A typical scene along the rivers in Missouri, as the Missouri National Guard and the local community are working together to hold back the water.

1993 State Emergency Missions

C of 110th Engineer Battalion, Lexington; 1138th Engineer Battalion, Macon; Battery C of 128th Field Artillery, Marshall; Headquarters 129th Field Artillery, Maryville; Service battery of 128th Field Artillery, Mexico; 1175th Military Police Company, Moberly; 121st Quartermaster Detachment, Mountain Grove; Company A of 203rd Engineer Battalion, Neosho; 118th Quartermaster Detachment, Company A of 735th Support Battalion, Nevada; Company D of 735th Support Battalion, Osage Beach; Company B of 1140th Engineer Battalion, Perryville; Company C of 1140th Engineer Battalion, Portageville; Service Battery of 129th Field Artillery, Richmond; 1438th Engineer Company, Rolla; 3175th Military Police Company, 205th Military Police Battalion, 1137th Military Police Company, St. Clair; 135th Signal Battalion, St. Joseph; 135th Field Artillery Brigade, Sedalia; Company C of 1140th Engineer Battalion, Sikeston; Company F of 735th Support Battalion, Springfield; Company B of 735th Support Battalion, Trenton; 3175th Military Police Company, Warrenton; 1138th Military Police Company, West Plains; 110th Fighter Squadron, 110th Weather Flight, 131st Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 131st Civil Engineer Squadron, 131st Fighter Wing, 131st CS, 131st Military Support Flight, 131st Communication Flight, 131st Mission Support Squadron, 131st Resource Management Squadron, 131st Security Police Flight, 131st Service Flight, 131st Mission Support, 231st Civil Engineer Flight, 239th Combat Communications Squadron, 571st Air Force Band, St. Louis/Bridgeton; 157th Air Control Group, 121st Air Control Squadron, 131st Civil Engineer Squadron, 218th Engineer Installation Squadron, St. Louis/Jefferson Barracks; 139th Airlift Group, 139th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 139th Civil Engineering Squadron, 139th Mobile Aerial Port Flight, 139th Mission Support Flight, 139th Mission Support Squadron, 139th Service Police Flight, 139th Services Flight, 139th Tactical Clinic, 180th Airlift Squadron, St. Joseph.

The flood was declared under control and operations were concluded on September 1, 1993. The Guard learned how to handle relations with the local population, and find ways to be more efficient for another crisis. They gained valuable experience. It is also important to remember just some of the generous acts of the wonderful citizens of Missouri. In Canton, Missouri the Guard was housed in Culver Stockton College dorms and ate at the cafeterias. Red Cross provided non-stop snacks, Pizza Hut delivered free pizza, and Ayer's Oil Company supplied fuel for the vehicles free of charge. This shows the mutual respect and good-will between the citizens and the Guard.



In Hardin, Mo., Guardsmen recover a decades old steel vault, among 700 vaults and caskets washed out of the 180-year-old cemetery. (Paul Childress/National Geographic)

1994 State Emergency Mission

- Ice Storm:

When a winter storm swept across northern Missouri, the Missouri National Guard responded quickly to aid several cities in debris removal and clearing of critical routes. Approximately 50 Soldiers from the 110th Engineer Battalion responded after Governor Mel Carnahan declared a State Emergency Duty (SED) for the Guard.

The Guard was mobilized from December 17 until December 30 to remove fallen trees, limbs and other debris caused by high winds and heavy accumulation of ice. The Guard engineers used their trucks and front-end loaders to haul roughly 900 truck loads from the city streets. This included the cities of St. Joseph, Kirksville, Savannah, Green City, Green Castle and Novinger.

This was the first emergency situation that the Missouri Guard used the new Emergency Operation Center (EOC) of the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA). SEMA is located at the Ike Skelton Training Site (ISTS) in Jefferson City.

1995 State Emergency Missions

- Flood of '95:

Approximately 12 inches of rain had caused widespread flooding across central and southeast Missouri. On May 21, over 140 Missouri Guard Soldiers and Airmen from nine Guard units were mobilized to assist in about 10 different towns. The majority of the Soldiers served the people of Portage des Sioux, Ste. Genevieve, and Festus-Crystal City, all towns where the Guard played key roles in the 1993 flood.

The experience of the '93 flood greatly reduced the flood response time as many of the lessons learned from early are now common practice. For example, the Rolla unit was prepared to load equipment within hours of the call up. In fact, the 1438th Engineer Company in less than 24 hours had their first bridge section in the St. Louis area waters, which was about a 200 mile trek. Much of their mission included ferrying vehicles and people (including school children) across a stretch of the Missouri River bottom land that zigzagged across four miles and took 45 minutes one way.

The 220th Engineers from Festus were tasked with providing security at roadblocks to help their hometown. The water rose to near '93 levels but there was less damage in 1995 due to the federal government buyout of more than 1,700 homes and businesses.

St. Genevieve, this historic Mississippi river town that is the oldest French settlement west of the Mississippi River, was defended by some 40 Soldiers from the 1140th Engineers - most were from Company A of nearby Farmington. They quickly responded, and in four days of working around the clock, had raised the levees that protected the residential area. After a week on duty, the 1140th had moved more than 14 million pounds of rock to reinforce the levee.

Other Guard units that served on State Emergency Duty during the flood response were: 203rd Engineer Battalion in Joplin; Company C 135th Signal Battalion in Carrollton; the 220th Engineer Company in Kimmswick; the 205th Military Police Company in St. Charles County; Company A, 735th Main Support Battalion in Nevada; and the 239th Combat Communications Squadron, Missouri Air Guard in Festus and Crystal City.

1995 State Emergency Missions

- Tornado Recovery:

A late afternoon tornado ripped through Moberly on July 4 causing widespread damage. No serious injuries were reported, but the town of 13,000 in north central Missouri suffered an estimated \$50 million in damages. This included a total of 445 homes with minor damage and 26 homes totally destroyed. Portions of the downtown area were hit hard to include 26 commercial buildings, including the city hall.

To help the city recover, 20 Soldiers from the 110th Engineer Battalion, Kansas City, reported for State Emergency Duty. They brought six five-ton trucks, two front end loaders and six chain saws. They worked nine days to help with the massive cleanup of trees and debris. They removed approximately 350 five-ton truckloads of debris from city streets.

Then City Manager Don Tuley expressed praise and sincere appreciation for the effort displayed by the 110th Engineer Battalion Soldiers. He explained that the city did not have the equipment to cope with the magnitude of destruction and debris left by the tornado.

1996 State Emergency Mission

- No Requested Response by the Missouri National Guard

1997 State Emergency Mission

- Manhunt:

In early April, 66 Soldiers of the Missouri Army National Guard's 1139th Military Police Company, Harrisonville, joined state and local law enforcement agencies in the search for triple murder suspect Alis Ben Johns. The MP Company responded to the Warsaw, Mo., area in less than 24 hours after receiving the call from Governor Mel Carnahan.

Carnahan issued the Executive Order on April 4, 1997, putting members of the 1139th on state emergency duty. Their mission was to assist with house-to-house searches, conduct roving patrols, and operate check points in key locations during the search.

The 1139th brought the expertise of many of its Soldiers who had civilian law enforcement experience. The unit as a whole had the experience of two previous manhunts in Missouri – 1981 and 1985.

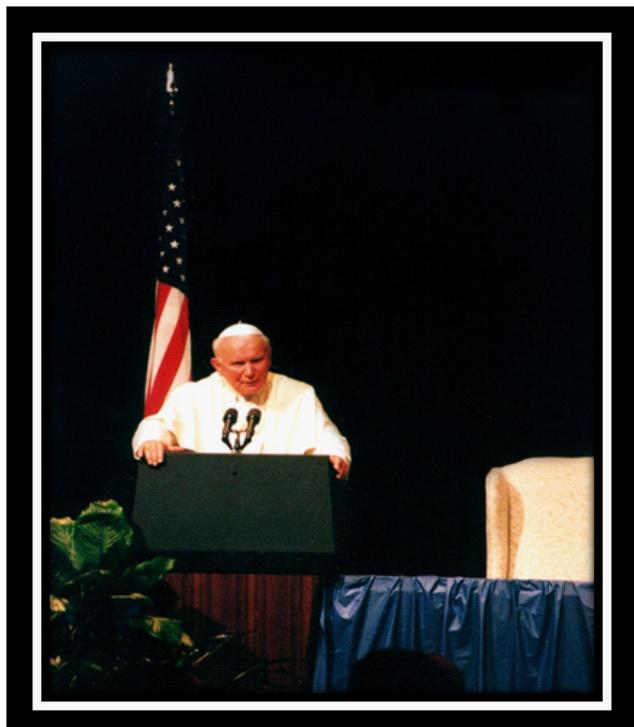
Three days after the Guard was called to state duty, Johns was shot and captured. It was stated that with the Guard's assistance, officers were able to search many more homes in the area. This helped bring the manhunt to a swift conclusion.

1998 State Emergency Mission

- No Requested Response by the Missouri National Guard

1999 State Emergency Mission

- Papal Visit:



Pope John Paul II speaks to the masses during his visit to St. Louis in January.

1137th Military Police Company and from other St. Louis-area units, spent four days establishing security zones with special fencing. On a side note, they responded to a traffic accident by taking charge, to include medical attention before civilian police and medical assistance arrived. Civilian authorities were amazed and impressed at how well the Guard handled the situation.



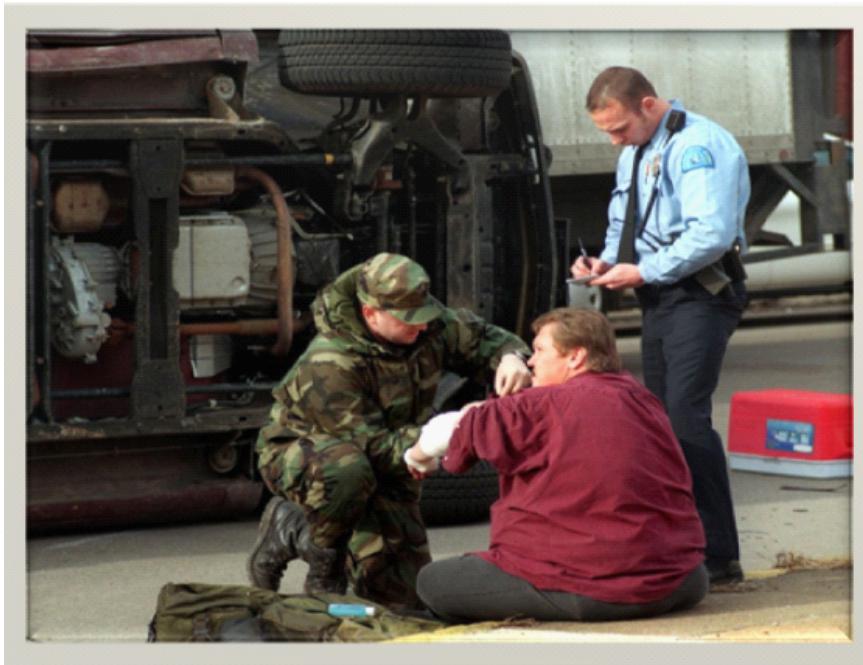
In January of 1999, Missourians witnessed a rare event not only to the United States, but particularly to the state of Missouri. Pope John Paul II paid a visit to Missouri. The Missouri National Guard played a large role ensuring the visit went smoothly as he spent most of the visit at the Missouri Air National Guard base at Lambert Field.

Lambert Field had to be transformed in many ways to accommodate first and foremost a meeting place for the Pope and President Bill Clinton, amongst other tasks.

Air Guard members from the 131st Fighter Wing not only prepped the meeting locations, worked as bus escorts for the shuttle buses, and manned the cleanup detail.

The Army Guard also provided support with approximately 70 Soldiers working as medics and security assistance. This included Company F, 735th Maintenance Support Battalion, of Springfield, who assisted with 29 Soldiers and 10 ambulances to augment the city's emergency response capabilities.

Approximately 50 Soldiers, mostly from the



Pfc. Matthew Junevitch of the 1137th Military Police Company provides medical attention to a victim, while a St. Louis police officer gets information on a two-car traffic accident during the visit of Pope John Paul II.

2000 State Emergency Mission

- Flood Response:

The first Sunday in May, 22 Soldiers from the 2175th Military Police Company, St. Clair, were called up to assist with a flash flood in Union, Mo.

The relentless thunderstorm dumped more than 14 inches of rain on Union and Franklin County overnight, forcing hundreds from their homes, inundating roads, farmlands, and damaging more than 125 homes and businesses.

Flat Creek, which runs through the center of Union, is normally just a small stream about three feet deep. In hours, it swelled to more than 22 feet deep and 150 yards wide.

A powerful wall of water, with unbelievable force, quickly washed out huge sections of union street, knocked houses off of their foundations, folded trailers around trees, and floated cars several blocks away from their original location. In a couple of hours, it was all over, but the recovery effort.

Governor Mel Carnahan declared a flood emergency and called up the National Guard for assistance. Besides the MP's who arrived Sunday night and stayed until Tuesday, 11 Guard engineers from various Guard units also were called to operate equipment provided by MoDOT to make emergency road repairs.

The MP's provided traffic control and enforced the 6 p.m. curfew. This kept everyone, including residents, out of the flooded area, and acted as a deterrent to looting.

An interesting side note to this emergency situation was the story of Mark Holland. He was an active duty Navy Seaman, a missile technician on the USS Albany. He was quoted as saying, "I can't seem to get away from the water." He had just arrived home on two weeks leave when the storm forced he and his mother to evacuate the house.

2001 State Emergency Mission

- Ice Storm:

As the New Year arrived, the Missouri National Guard helped Arkansas recover from winter storms that left much of the state without electric power. Missouri Governor Roger Wilson called on the Guard as the Arkansas National Guard requested generator support through an interstate disaster assistance compact. The Emergency Mutual Assistance Compact (EMAC) allows states to support each other in time of need. At the time, Missouri was one of 34 states participating in EMAC.

On December 28, the 203rd Engineer Battalion in southwest Missouri took four generators and nine Soldiers to Fort Smith, Arkansas. One Soldier from the 735th Main Support Battalion also supported the mission. The 10 Soldiers and three of the generators returned to Missouri on January 1.

Three C-130's from the 139th Airlift Wing, St. Joseph, made two trips to Little Rock Air Force Base on December 28, delivering 18 generators to help the stricken community. The 131st Fighter Wing, St. Louis, supplied the generators and 12 Airmen from the 239th Combat Communications Squadron, St. Louis, along with maintenance support. The Airmen returned to Missouri on January 2, leaving all the generators in Arkansas indefinitely.

A total of 41 Missouri Guard Soldiers and Airmen, including 19 members of the air crews, were put on State Emergency Duty to support this mission.

2001 State Emergency Mission

- Callaway Nuclear Power Plant:

The Missouri National Guard provided additional security at Missouri nuclear plants in November. Governor Bob Holden, in response to rising terrorist threats around the nation, issued orders to activate military police as temporary security reinforcements at potential terrorist targets of opportunity. Security was conducted at the Callaway Nuclear Power Plant near Fulton and at the University of Missouri nuclear reactor in Columbia.

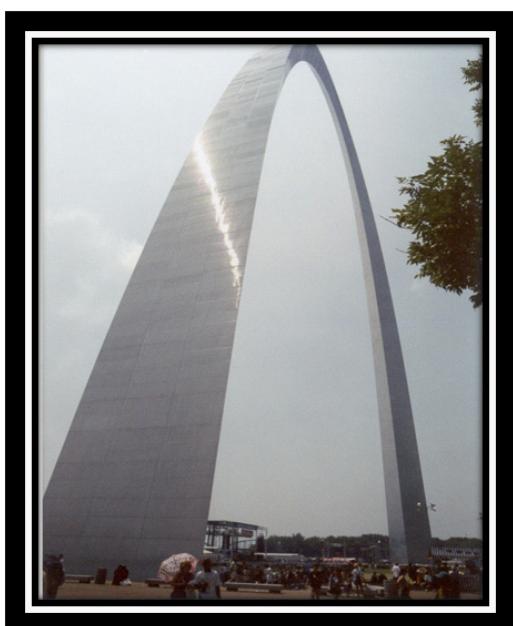
Thirty-five Soldiers from the 175th Military Police Battalion were placed at the Callaway facility to serve as outer perimeter security ensuring it would be able to deal with a potential threat. The MP's patrolled the road around the facility, checked the locks at the transmitter station and guarded the water intake valve at the Missouri River. Ultimately, there were no known threats to the facility.

2002 State Emergency Mission

- Show Me Arch:

The Gateway to the West Arch needed some additional security during the St. Louis Fair over the July 4 weekend. The Missouri National Guard provided over 360 Soldiers from the 735th Main Support Battalion to do just that.

Governor Bob Holden had ordered the National Guard to St. Louis in early July after receiving a request from the National Park Service for additional protection on the grounds of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial. The 735th Soldiers formed a perimeter around the large park, providing 24-hour security in three shifts.



The focus of the Missouri National Guard on a hot festive day in July 2002.



A Soldier of the 175th Military Police providing security in the shadow of the St. Louis Arch.

The near 100 degree temperatures and high humidity were challenging, particularly to those who were in charge. In the end, one of the significant accomplishments was that nobody was a casualty due to heat injuries. Credit can be attributed to first line leaders for this successful mission execution. These committed Soldiers from the 735th units served at Fair St. Louis were from the battalion headquarters at Poplar Bluff, as well as Bernie, Doniphan, Jefferson City, Lamar, Nevada, St. Ann, Springfield and Warrenton.

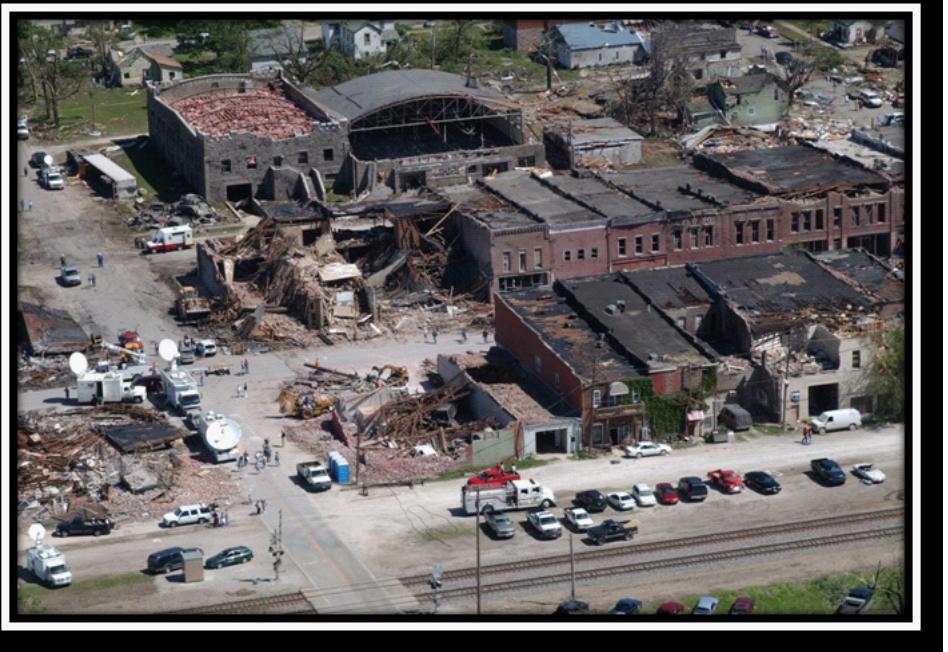
A note of interest was that National Park Service Ranger Bill McKinney, also a major in the Missouri National Guard, knew he was going to the fair long before the Guard was called up. At the time he was one of about 100 members of the park's national special events security team for large events and who was involved with planning security for the fair.

2003 State Emergency Mission

- Tornado Response:

A line of severe thunderstorms passed through West Central, Southwest and South Central Missouri during the late afternoon and early evening of May 4, 2003. The storm produced many tornadoes that resulted in severe damage in 16 counties, and impacting 39 counties overall. Due to the extent and severity of the damage, Governor Bob Holden called up 170 Missouri National Guard Soldiers after declaring a state of emergency.

Called to duty were Soldiers from the 110th Engineer Battalion, Kansas City; Company A, 735th Main Support Battalion, Nevada; and Company C, 935th Division Aviation Support Battalion, Aurora and Springfield.



An aerial view of the devastation to downtown Pierce City, to include the Missouri National Guard Armory in the upper left portion of the photo.

These units were sent to Gladstone, Pierce City and Stockton to provide relief in those badly damaged towns.

The Guardsmen assisted local law enforcement in providing security to the devastated areas. The Guard also delivered four large generators to Pierce City and seven to Stockton to help generate electricity for emergency needs.

In addition to the 2,570 Missouri Guardsmen already serving on federal active duty for Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Noble Eagle, members of the 203rd Engineer Battalion were preparing to deploy to Iraq. One of the key buildings in Pierce City that was destroyed by the tornado was the National Guard Armory. Many of the Soldiers had trained in this armory, and tragically where the wife of Spc. William Handley was killed. In total, the storm took the lives of 18 Missourians.



A Guardsman providing security to the tornado inflicted armory in Pierce City.

2004 State Emergency Mission

- No Requested Response by the Missouri National Guard

2005 State Emergency Mission

- Hurricane Katrina Response:

The Missouri Guardsmen mobilized three days after Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf on August 28. Over 2,000 National Guardsmen participated in relief efforts from early September to October. The Missouri Guard was a part of a Joint Task Force which was a humanitarian assistance operation led by the Department of Defense.



Military Police humvees line a street in the French Quarter of New Orleans as a Member of the 175th Military Police Battalion patrol the streets days after Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast.

From the start, members of the Guard lent a helping hand. Members of the 139th Airlift Wing engaged in safety missions helping transport children to hospitals in Kansas City. By August 30, the flood was reportedly cresting in New Orleans and security was a huge priority. One thousand National Guard troops were sent to help keep the peace in the city, while the remaining half of the Guardsmen were involved in rescue efforts, medical help and solving engineering difficulties. There were a significant number of reports of rape, looting and other illegal acts in the abandoned city. These Guardsmen collaborated with local police to keep the peace. Three physicians from the 206th Area Support Medical Company helped give medical assistance and gave vaccines to refugees.

The intelligence staff was able to provide daily weather information and priority updates regarding

2005 State Emergency Mission

road closings, power outages and danger zones. The intelligence staff learned how to better support large cities like New Orleans, as well as how to manage a huge disaster in such a large city.

The 7th Weapons of Mass Destruction – Civil Support Team was a huge asset to the relief effort. Using their technical equipment the team had the ability to assess public health issues such as: air quality, soil quality and localizing any hazardous material spills. This was the first step in the safe reentry of residents.

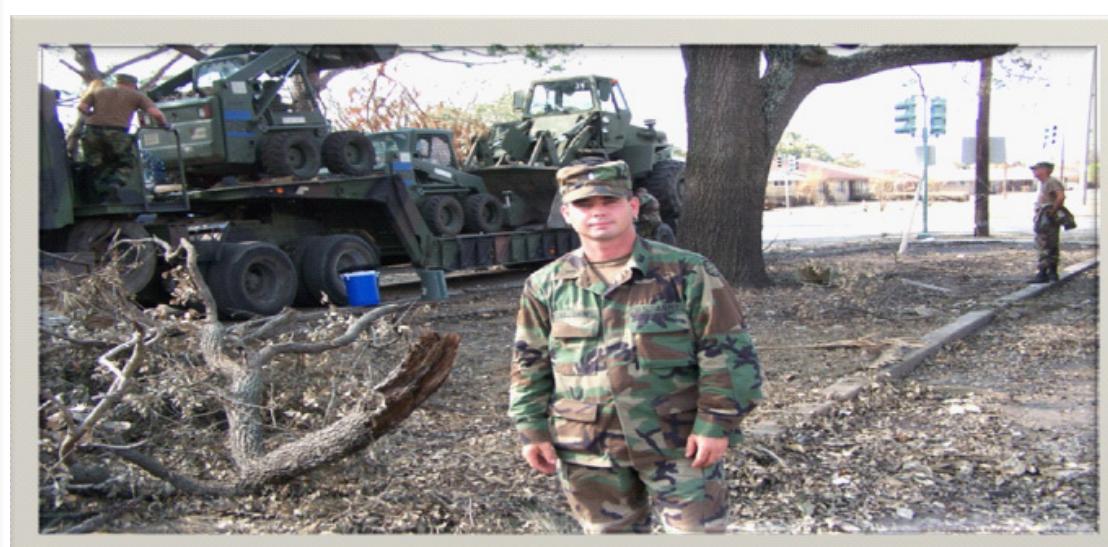
The 203rd Engineer Company from Joplin was charged with clearing primary and secondary roads in a 20 mile radius of northern parts of Orleans

Parish. Additional engineer companies were given tasks similar to the 203rd.

The 35th Infantry Division's Task Force Santa Fe based out of Kansas City was essential in co-ordinating communications for units from all 50 states and four territories. The unit's critical planning and setting up of communications allowed units to communicate seamlessly while operating in New Orleans.



An ominous view of the Super Dome taken just after the initial Missouri National Guard units arrived in New Orleans.



1st Lt. Vaughn unloads equipment as the Missouri National Guard moves in to assist with debris removal in New Orleans.

and setting up of communications allowed units to communicate seamlessly while operating in New Orleans.

The 139th Airlift Wing played a key role through the air. In the first week of the devastation that plagued the area, the 139th completed relief missions

on a 24 hour basis, having flown more than 24 missions, 63 sorties and 260 tons of materials. Those materials included vehicles, passengers, food and 750,000 bottles of water.

The following is a list of the Missouri National Guard units involved in the relief effort: 1/129th FA

2005 State Emergency Missions

Battalion, Maryville; Det 1 HHS, Richmond; A Battery, Albany; B Battery, Chillicothe; D Battery, Independence; 1/128th FA Battalion A Battery, Jefferson; Det. 1, B Battery, Hannibal; Det. 1, C Battery, Boonville; 1137th MP Co, Kennett; 218th Engineering Installation Squadron, Jefferson Barracks; Det. 1, 1138th MP Co, West Plains; 1140th Engineer Battalion, Cape Girardeau; 1139th MP Co, Harrisonville; Det. 1, 1139th MP Co, Moberly; 2175th MP Co, St. Clair; Det. 1, 2175th MP Co, Hannibal; 131st Fighter Wing, St. Louis; 139th Airlift Wing, St. Joseph; 880th Engineer Dump Co, Dexter; 135th Signal Battalion, St. Joseph; 203rd Engineer Battalion, Joplin; 1107th AVCRAD, Springfield; 175th MP Battalion, Fulton; Det. 1, 1137th, Fulton; Det. 1, 1137th, Jefferson Barracks; 1138th MP Co, Springfield; 1121st Transportation Co, Trenton; 206th Area Medical Support Co, Springfield; as well as soldiers and airmen who volunteered from other units.



One of the numerous aviation missions performed by the Missouri National Guard during Hurricane Katrina relief response.



Members of the 203rd Engineer Battalion performing a typical debris removal mission.

2006 State Emergency Mission

- Summer Storms:

In the aftermath of a couple waves of heavy thunderstorms and destructive winds, numerous Missouri National Guard units joined with local agencies to ensure the safety and recovery of St. Louis residents. The storms caused hundreds of thousands to lose power and suffer heat injuries during the record setting temperatures in the high 90's.

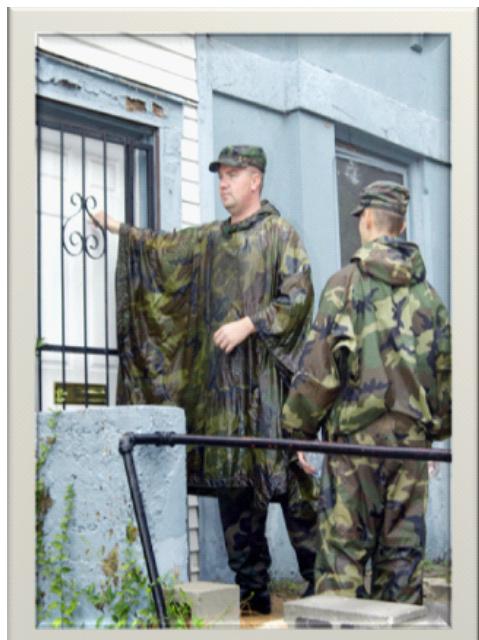
Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen from throughout Missouri started arriving in St. Louis on July 20, to assist within 24 hours after the storms first hit. Their mission focused on health and welfare inspections and debris removal. The Missouri National Guard set up a headquarters at the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial in downtown St. Louis. At the same time, members of the Guard's 1438th Multi-Role Bridge Company, headquartered in Macon with a detachment in Kirksville, began knocking on resident's doors to ensure their safety and assess their needs from the storm. St. Louis Fire Department representatives with radio communication accompanied the Soldiers.

Guardsmen also transported residents from shelters to their homes to retrieve medications and clothing, and then returned them to the shelters—primarily for the elderly and handicapped residents seeking shelter at the Wohl Center, the city's most acute care shelter.

The Missouri National Guard units that supported this operation were 70th Troop Command, Jefferson Barracks; 1138th Engineer Company, Farmington and Fredericktown; 880th Haul Team, Perryville; 220th Engineer Company, Festus; 1438th Engineer Company, Macon and Kirksville; 1140th Engineer Battalion, Cape Girardeau; 218th Engineering Installation Squadron, St. Louis; 203rd Engineer Battalion, Joplin; 294th Engineer Company, Carthage and Anderson; 276th Engineer Company, Monett and Pierce City; 1141st Engineer Company, Kansas City; 117th Asphalt Team,



Pfc. Block working hard at the removal of the large amount of debris left behind by the intense summer storm.



Guardsmen performing health and welfare checks throughout the city of St. Louis.

2006 State Emergency Missions

Pierce City; 1175th Military Police Company, St. Clair and Jefferson Barracks; 175th Military Police Battalion, Columbia; 3175th Military Police Company, Warrenton and Mexico; 2175th Military Police Company, Hannibal and Moberly; 1140th Military Police Company, Fulton and Columbia; 1139th Military Police Company, Harrisonville and Boonville; and the 70th Mobile Public Affairs Unit, Jefferson City.

There were also individual Soldiers and Airmen mobilized from Detachment 2, 735th Quartermaster Company, Jefferson City; Company B, 311th Support Battalion, Centertown; 1035th Maintenance Company, Jefferson Barracks; Detachment 1, 1221st Transportation Company, St. Peters; 239th Combat Communication Squadron, St. Louis; and the 131st Fighter Wing, St. Louis. In all, nearly 700 Missouri National Guardsmen aided the city of St. Louis in the storm recovery.

- Amber Alert Assistance:

The Missouri National Guard has a long history of search and rescue, so this year was no different as Governor Matt Blunt ordered the Missouri National Guard to aid in a search.

In September, approximately 100 Soldiers from the 1175th Military Police helped authorities in the search for newborn Abigale Lynn Woods, who had been kidnapped from her Franklin home. She was found at a local hospital in good condition four days after her abduction.

- Winter Storms:

More than 100 Missouri National Guard members, predominantly from the 135th Rear Operations Center in St. Louis, provided emergency assistance in the St. Louis area when some 250,000 homes and businesses suffered power outages following a severe ice storm in December.

As a result of the sub-freezing temperatures and wide-spread loss of power Governor Matt Blunt declared a Missouri-wide state of emergency.

The city of St. Louis requested humanitarian support from the Governor who turned to the National Guard units to provide emergency assistance. They were already scheduled to drill over the weekend, according to a representative of the 135th Rear Operations Center.

Soldiers assisted in gathering generators and cots to be dispersed to the communities requesting relief. Over 300 cots were delivered and at least 10 generators were loaned out within the first 48 hours.

Additionally, Soldiers from Task Force Power Outage were paired with the St. Louis Fire Department firefighters and together conducted health and welfare checks on area residents affected by the storms. On Sunday morning, Soldiers made calls to residents identified by Ameren Union Electric who were known to be especially hard-hit by the loss of power.

Soldiers also played a big part in helping the Salvation Army with the distribution of food and blankets along with assisting residents with special needs. Some special needs included medical devices that needed electricity, medications, or just providing information on the location of the nearest warming stations and hot meal locations.



A Guardsman performing health and welfare checks in St. Louis after intense summer storms.

2007 State Emergency Mission

- Ice Storms:

The Missouri National Guard assisted with the triple wave ice storm that paralyzed almost a third of the state, which included the Southwest, Central and St. Louis portions of Missouri. The severe winter storms caused eight deaths and knocked out power to over 330,000 Missourians.

Governor Matt Blunt declared a state of emergency that included 35 counties. He then sent approximately 550 Missouri National Guardsmen to the Springfield and St. Louis areas in response to the storm. The mission was appropriately named "Bitter Rain" by the Missouri National Guard. The total sum of the key assistance provided by the Missouri National Guard by January 22, 2007, is reflected in the following numbers:

- Health and Welfare Checks (Doors knocked on) - **21,530**
- Meals Delivered - **58,577**
- Cases of Water Delivered - **11,012**
- Cots Delivered - **2,117**
- Blankets Delivered - **3,974**
- Route Clearance (City Blocks Cleared) - **543**
- Generators in Operation - **83**

The main Missouri National Guard units involved in this mission were the 203rd EN BN and the 35th Engineer Brigade. Some of the key supporting units were the 203rd Forward Support Company, Joplin; 276th Engineer Company and 117th Asphalt Team, Monett and Pierce City; 294th Engineer Company, Carthage and Anderson; along with a number of individuals from Air Guard units and other Army Guard units.



Pvt. Brian Duncan of the 1138th Engineer Company (Sapper) in Farmington cuts-up debris from the recent winter storm in Farmington.



Soldiers deliver boxes of blankets to distribute to St. Louis without electricity.

2007 State Emergency Missions

- Bio Hazard Threat:

Twenty members from the Missouri National Guard's 7th Civil Support Team (CST) responded to the University of Missouri-Rolla campus on February 27, 2007 after a student threatened terrorist like actions with a bomb threat, threatening letters, and a white powdery substance.

The CST supports the civilian incident commander by identifying Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and high-yield Explosives (CBRNE) agents/substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measures, and assisting with appropriate requests for state support. In this case, the unit also took the appropriate action.

In the end, the white substance was found to be powdered sugar, and there was no bomb, but that did not, and would not have affected the response of the 7th CST. The CST is trained to take every threat as a real and potentially hazardous situation.

- Flood Response:

Nearly 200 Missouri National Guardsmen assisted or were ready to assist Northwest Missouri communities in flood response efforts during the May Floods of 2007.

Before the flood waters reached Missouri, Governor Matt Blunt signed the executive order authorizing mobilization of the Missouri Guard. The 110th Combat Support Brigade and its subordinate units then promptly assisted with protection of critical infrastructure. This included support to civil authorities in saving lives and assisting with transportation, evacuation, communication, security, flood control, power generation and other missions as required. To ensure assistance was responsive and appropriate the Missouri guard emplaced 20 liaison officers in counties that had flooding activity.

The Airman of the 139th Airlift Wing enacted its emergency flood plan and moved all aircraft to Kansas.

- Chemical Hazard Response:

The Missouri National Guard's 7th Civil Support Team – Weapons of Mass Destruction was flown in from Fort Leonard Wood to respond to a threat at Polytainers, Inc., a plastic container manufacturing plant in Lee's Summit. The incident occurred on Wednesday, August 3, 2007, after an employee found a suspicious container placed in the corner of the employee break room. The container, manufactured at the plant, had wires surrounding the base which caused concern.

After the container was declared non-threatening from an IED perspective, the Soldiers and Airmen from both units entered the hazard area and ensured there were no other hazards. The unit members monitored the area for chemical and radiological contamination and proceeded to gather data and biological samples for testing. Not knowing for sure if hazards existed, the Citizen-Soldiers and Citizen-Airmen still had to suit up before entering the building and were decontaminated after exiting.

In the end, the container was found to be empty and declared non-threatening, but that did not affect the Soldiers' level of response.

Always Ready, Always There

2007 State Emergency Missions

- Ice Storms:

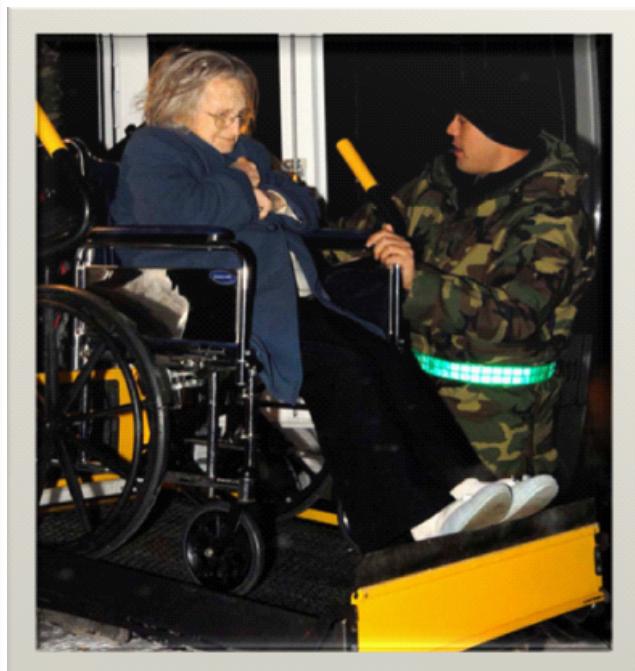
Missouri Governor Matt Blunt mobilized 250 Citizen-Soldiers and Citizen-Airmen to assist following a state declaration of emergency on December 9, 2007, after severe winter storms hit hard the southwest and northwest portions of the state.

In Lamar, the Missouri National Guard Armory served as a warming center/secure location for more than a 100 families. Across the region, Soldiers and Airmen also provided transportation, cleared debris from roadways, conducted door-to-door wellness checks and provided generator support.

The mobilization was supported by a variety of units across the state, primarily by the 139th Airlift Wing, St. Joseph; 175th Military Police Battalion, Columbia; 1140th Engineer Battalion, Cape Girardeau; 203rd Engineer Battalion, Joplin; and Company A, 311th Brigade Support Battalion.

It was also on December 9, 2007, that Missouri National Guard Officer Candidate Neilson Rudd

stopped to assist occupants (even though he was off duty) of a vehicle during the ice storm on Highway 63 north of Jefferson City. Tragically, another vehicle lost control and struck Rudd. He was pronounced dead at the scene.



Members from the Missouri Guard's 139th Airlift Wing conducted wellness checks and helped the residents in Buchanan County for six days to get to warming shelters in the aftermath of severe winter storms.



Sgt. Daren Johnson talks to a Maryville resident while conducting wellness checks during the December ice storm that caused widespread damage.

2008 State Emergency Missions

- Ice Storm:

On January 12, 2008, a blustery storm – dropped an inch of ice, two inches of sleet, followed up with 30 mph winds – impacted southeast Missouri, particularly Cape Girardeau. After the request by Governor Matt Blunt was made 30 members of the Missouri National Guard went door-to-door in parts of southeast Missouri. They checked on the welfare of residents after numerous days without electricity. The supporting Soldiers were part of the 1140th Engineer Battalion, Cape Girardeau.

2008 State Emergency Missions

- Flood Response:

Towards the end of March, parts of Southern Missouri received more than 10 inches of rain in a relatively short period of time, leaving four people dead and hundreds out of their homes.

Governor Matt Blunt activated the Missouri National Guard.



Spc. Terrell McCollough holds infant Lillian Pioneer. The infant and her mother had been stranded after their car broke down outside Piedmont.

Numerous roads were closed due to rising and fast moving water. Early on many

of the National Guard missions involved search and rescue missions. The mission focus then turned to unloading emergency supplies, health and wellness checks, and assisting the sheriff's department with recovering vehicles from fields and streams.

Approximately 25 Soldiers were assigned to assist citizens mostly in the Piedmont and Marble Hill areas. The main units engaged in this mobilization were: 1140th Engineer Battalion, Cape Girardeau; 205th Military Police Battalion, Poplar Bluff; and the 1137th Military Police Company.



Humvees carrying Soldiers from the 205th Military Police Battalion and 1137th Military Police Company drove through the flooded streets of Piedmont.

Protecting Good People from Bad Things

- Tornado Recovery:

Missouri Guard Soldiers answered the call following the activation by Governor Matt Blunt after a tornado on May 10, 2008, devastated Newton County in southwest Missouri.

Twenty Citizen-Soldiers with the Missouri National Guard's 203rd Engineer Battalion arrived in Newtonia and Granby – the two cities hardest hit by the tornado that killed 12 people and injured over 80 in Newton County alone – early Sunday morning.

The Soldiers assisted with search and rescue initially and then transitioned to more of a security mission to ensure safety and keep looters out of the area.

The 203rd Engineer Battalion was personally affected by the storm as one of its own, Staff Sgt. Eddie Hukill, a Joplin recruiter, was caught in the mile-wide tornado while driving on Iris Road on the western side of Newton County. Hukill sustained a head injury and a broken arm when a tree limb was thrown through the windshield of his minivan. Ironically, storm chasers from Tulsa, Okla., drove him to the hospital after the encounter. He made a full recovery from his injuries.

2008 State Emergency Missions

- Flood Response:

More than 1,200 Missouri Guardsmen were mobilized to support communities along the upper Mississippi River during flooding in June and July.

The peak number of Missouri Guard members reached to more than 800 on duty along the river. The Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen were mobilized in the communities of Clarksville, Hannibal, Canton, West Quincy, Lagrange, Winfield, Alexandria, West Alton, Portage Des Sioux, St. Charles and St. Charles County. The missions included: sandbagging operations, levee monitoring and manning traffic control points.

Missouri National Guard units supporting the flood response efforts include the 1438th Engineer Company (Bridge), Macon and Kirksville; the 1138th Transportation Company, Jefferson Barracks; the 1035th Maintenance Company, Jefferson Barracks; the 735th Quartermaster Company, located in DeSoto, Poplar Bluff, Jefferson City, Cape Girardeau, Rolla and Jefferson Barracks; 3175th Chemical Company, St. Peters; 220th Engineer Company, Festus; 880th Equipment Support Platoon, Perryville; 835th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion, Jefferson City; 1140th Engineer Battalion, Cape Girardeau; 131st Fighter Wing, St. Louis; and 70th Troop Command, Jefferson Barracks.



The Missouri National Guard had their work cut out for them with assisting this historic community.



Soldiers from the Missouri National Guard's 1035th Maintenance Company fill sandbags in Clarksville, Mo.



Missouri Air Guard members rally at the Portage Des Sioux Water Plant while supporting state emergency duty to fight flooding in June.



Nothing better than a little appreciation to motivate the Guardsmen.



Guard members donning lifejackets help unload sandbags from a boat during the efforts to save Winfield.

2008 State Emergency Missions

- Hurricane Gustav Response:

On August 30, 2008, Missouri Governor Matt Blunt mobilized more than 1,300 Missouri Army National Guard members to help civil authorities' hurricane relief efforts in Louisiana. The relief efforts continued for about two weeks.



Soldier from Company A, 311th Brigade Support Battalion loads a palate of water onto a Chinook.

Governor Blunt activated the Missouri National Guard in conjunction with the Emergency Management Assistance Compact after Louisiana's State Emergency Management Agency filed an aid request. Governor Blunt activated Citizen-Soldiers from four Missouri commands - the 20th Combat Aviation Brigade, Sedalia; 35th Engineer Brigade, Fort Leonard Wood; 70th Troop Command, Jefferson Barracks; and 110th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, Kansas City - that sent Soldiers to the approaching storm.

In addition to traditional Guard units, Missouri also sent the 7th Civil Support Team. The team restored Internet capability to civilian emergency services. After receiving an initial request for a helicopter maintenance team, the Missouri Guard quickly responded to requests for additional troops in support of emergency response efforts. Those response efforts were logistical in general to include commodity distribution transportation and general transportation needs to

minimize human suffering. Other missions included the conduct of security operations, community outreach operations, and other missions as required and approved.

A complete list of the Missouri Guard's hurricane responding units included: 70th Troop Command, Jefferson Barracks; 205th Military Police Battalion, Poplar Bluff; 1138th Military Police Company, West Plains; 1137th Military Police, St. Louis; 1175th Military Police, St. Clair; 2175th Military Police Company, Boonville; 1139th Military Police Company, Harrisonville; 1140th Military Police Company, Fulton; 1221st Transportation Company, Dexter; 3175th Military Police Company, Kennett; 35th Engineer Brigade, Fort Leonard Wood; 880th Engineer Team (Haul), Perryville; 220th Engineer Company (Horizontal), Festus; 1141st Engineer Company, Kansas City; 203rd Engineer Battalion, Joplin; 203rd Forward Support Company, Joplin; 294th Engineer Company, Carthage; 311th Brigade Support Battalion, Lexington; Company A, 311th Brigade Support Battalion, Nevada; 548th Transportation Company, Trenton; 20th Combat Aviation Brigade, Sedalia; 1107th Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot, Springfield; 935th Aviation Support Battalion, Springfield; 110th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, Kansas City; 35th Special Troops Battalion, St. Joseph; Joint Force Missouri and Medical Detachment, Jefferson City; and 7th Civil Support Team, Fort Leonard Wood.



Missouri National Guardsmen head into New Orleans during the response to Hurricane Gustav.

2009 State Emergency Missions

- Winter Ice Storms:

Governor Jay Nixon mobilized the Missouri Guard on January 28, to help residents of southern and southeast Missouri recover after a winter storm caused widespread damage and power outages.



Pfc. Kendra Tunstall and Spc. Charles Sandeberg load Civilian Meals Ready-to-Eat into the back of a Humvee for distribution during health and welfare checks in New Madrid County.

Several cities in southeast Missouri were without power, and members of the Guard helped ensure crucial service providers such as hospitals, nursing homes and water treatment facilities were able to function.

Approximately

400 Missouri National Guardsmen supported local authorities in the hardest-hit counties in southern and southeast Missouri. National Guard liaison officers worked with county officials to determine where the Guard was needed. Missions included route clearance, power generation, and door-to-door wellness visits.

Those units in support of this storm response included: 205th Military Police, Poplar Bluff; 1175th Military Police, St. Clair; 1137th Military Police, Doniphan, Kennett, Jackson; 1138th Engineer Company, Farmington and Fredericktown and other Missouri Guard Units.



Soldiers from the 880th Engineer Team performed health and wellness checks in Sikeston to check on those who lost power due to the winter ice storm.

- North Dakota Response:

In late March, Governor Jay Nixon mobilized the Missouri National Guard units in Springfield and St. Joseph to help North Dakota in its response to historic flooding in that state. The Missouri Guard provided two C-130 aircraft with 14 Airmen and a helicopter maintenance team with 20 Soldiers.

The Missouri National Guard support came from the Airmen of the 139th Airlift Wing, St. Joseph, and the Soldiers of the 1107th Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group, Springfield.

2010 State Emergency Missions

- Oil Spill Response:

In late May, Missouri Army National Guard Soldiers provided support for Louisiana's oil spill response efforts. Governor Jay Nixon gave the order to mobilize a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter and approximately 15 Missouri Guard Soldiers.

The Soldiers, including some from the 35th Combat Aviation Brigade in Sedalia and the 1-106th Assault Helicopter Battalion at Ft. Leonard Wood, conducted numerous missions that primarily included transporting equipment and personnel.

2010 State Emergency Missions

- Flood Response:

Governor Jay Nixon activated the Missouri National Guard on June 24, to provide emergency assistance to residents of northwest Missouri communities that could be affected by continued flooding along the Missouri River. This action was taken by the Governor in response to notification from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that it would increase the release of water from the upper Missouri river at the Gavins Point reservoir. The peak target release rate of 35,000 cubic feet per second was reached in about four days.

With the release of large amounts of water about 50 Guardsmen were on the ground quickly in northwest Missouri conducting relief missions. The Guard's mission included manning traffic control points, monitoring levees, sandbagging and assisting law enforcement in patrolling the scarcely populated areas.



Flood water spreads through Northern Missouri in June after weeks of heavy rains and massive storms.



Top: Governor Jay Nixon tours the town of Fortescue, in Northern Missouri as devastating flood waters spread throughout the rural landscape and threaten the small town. Nixon is accompanied by Brig. Gen. Steve Danner, adjutant general; Col. Mike McEnulty, 139th Airlift Wing commander; and local journalists as he visits the local community and surveys the damage.

Right: A Missouri National Guard Blackhawk helicopter sits on a flooded road in Northern Missouri after dropping off Gov. Jay Nixon, who is in the area to survey the disaster and interact with the local community.

The Guard also had liaison officers serving in the emergency operations centers in those counties impacted by the flood.

On a side note this emergency mission provided an opportunity for the Missouri Army and Air National Guards to put their joint training and operations to the test. The Task Force was made up of numerous Airmen from the 139th Airlift Wing and Soldiers from the 35th Special Troops Battalion and the 110th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade.



2011 State Emergency Missions

- Blizzard Response:

A monster winter storm that impacted one third of the country took aim at central Missouri. In an unprecedented move Governor Jay Nixon mobilized the Missouri National Guard on January 31, just ahead of the heart of the storm. The National Guard mobilized about 600 Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen in St. Louis, northwest and southwest Missouri. The main units who were mobilized to deal with the deep snow came from the southwest, but numerous other units also contributed. The missions accomplished included many of the historical tasks of past winter storm responses such as emergency route clearance, door-to-door safety visits, generator assistance and stranded motorist support.

A unique mission developed in the Warrensburg area when a woman, who was nine months pregnant and her husband was away at military basic training, felt her water break. The National Guard responded by ensuring the safe delivery of the woman to the hospital by way of a FMTV, because the dispatched ambulance could not negotiate the road to the house. This soon became one of the top good news stories known as “The Blizzard Baby.” This storm produced many other similar tales of the Missouri National Guard serving the people of the state. As has been the practice of assisting in multiple county emergencies, the Guard also established liaison officers in emergency operation centers in all the affected cities and counties.



On Jan. 31, 2011, Missouri Governor Jay Nixon mobilized the Missouri National Guard to assist civil authorities throughout the state.

Wing, Whiteman Air Force Base; 117th Engineer Company, Monett; 311th Brigade Support Battalion, Lexington; 135th Signal Company, Lexington; 129th Field Artillery Battalion, Maryville; 1-138th Infantry, Kansas City; 35th Combat Aviation Brigade, Sedalia; 35th Infantry Division, North Kansas City; 139th Airlift Wing, St. Joseph; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 35th Engineer Brigade, Fort Leonard Wood; Headquarters and Headquarters Company and Forward Support Company, 203rd Engineer Battalion, Joplin; 276th Engineer Company, Pierce City; 294th Engineer Company, Carthage and Anderson; 1138th MP Company, West Plains and Springfield; 1139th Military Police Company, Harrisonville; Special Troops Battalion, Joint Force Headquarters Missouri, Jefferson City; 70th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Jefferson City; Civil Air Patrol; and the Joint Operations Center, Jefferson City.



Missouri Guardsmen were tasked with checking vehicles along closed Interstate 70 for stranded motorist during “Operation Bitter Rain.”



Spc. Brandon Bates holds the door of a Humvee for St. Johns paramedic Justin Heltzel, who is helping a resident of Laclede County in distress.

2011 State Emergency Missions

- Flood Response:

Governor Jay Nixon activated the Missouri National Guard on April 25, to provide emergency assistance to residents of southeast Missouri communities that could be affected by flooding along the Mississippi River. The mission of the National Guard soon became known as "Operation Rising Tide." The spring storms brought near 14 inches of rain initially across the Ozarks, placing many guard units on alert. At the peak of the call up, some 800 Soldiers and Airmen served the people of southeast Missouri.

The National Guard performed many of the typical flood response missions to support the local authorities, including sandbagging, levee monitoring, route reconnaissance, door-to-door safety visits, and supporting law enforcement and first responders. Some numbers of interest would include 410,000 sandbags filled while the

Guard assisted local law enforcement at 852 checkpoints. In addition, particularly with the intentional breaching of the Birds Point levee the 1438th Engineer Company was needed to perform rafting and ferrying operations to transport people and vehicles across flood waters. A story caught on videotape that caught the eye of the nation was the daring rescue of a 93-year-old woman from the swollen Black River by two National Guardsmen from the 1138th Military Police.

The units that supported this mission included: 70th Troop Command, Jefferson Barracks; 175th Military Police Battalion, Columbia; 1175th Military Police Company, St. Clair and St. Louis; 2175th Military Police Company, Hannibal and Moberly; 1140th Engineer Battalion



Floodwaters from the Mississippi River swamp the area north of New Madrid, Mo.



Governor Jay Nixon and the top Missouri National Guard leadership return from viewing the flood waters.



The launching of a Missouri National Guard patrol boat.



An explosion lights up the sky as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers blows an 11,000 foot hole in Birds Point levee in Mississippi County, Mo.

2011 State Emergency Missions



and 1140th Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Cape Girardeau; 139th Air Lift Wing, St. Joseph; 1438th Engineer Company, Macon and Kirksville; 1138th Engineer Company, Farmington and Fredericktown; 880th Engineer Detachment, Perryville; 1221st Transportation Company, Dexter, Portageville, and Sikeston; 220th Engineer Company, Fetus; 1138th Transportation, Jefferson Barracks; 35th Combat Aviation Brigade, Sedalia; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 35th Engineer Brigade, Fort Leonard Wood; 1138th Military Police Company, West Plains and Springfield; 7th Civil Support Team; and the 70th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Jefferson City; Civil Air Patrol; and the Joint Operations Center, Jefferson City.

Missouri National Guard members help sandbag a water treatment plant in Morehouse, Missouri, after torrential rains caused heavy flooding in the small town.

- Tornado Response:

When the devastating EF-5 Tornado slammed into Joplin, Mo., on May 22, 2011, Governor Jay Nixon immediately mobilized the Missouri National Guard and additional state resources to ensure the citizens of Joplin had every asset available during the aftermath of the disaster. The Missouri National Guard worked on order from Governor Jay Nixon and worked under the control of local authorities.

The initial response was provided by approximately 140 Guardsmen from the local units. The 117th Engineer Team, of Monett, and 294th Engineer Company, of Carthage and Anderson went right to work performing the primary needed missions to include search and rescue, security, traffic control points and presence patrols. Other follow-on missions included communications support, emergency route clearance, door-to-door safety visits and functions related to the Memorial Activities/President of the United States visit to honor the victims of the tornado.

In addition, the Missouri National Guard Joplin Armory sustained minor damage and was without power. The Missouri Guard used the Carthage Armory and Camp Crowder as a power projection platform to stage and deploy troops to Joplin.



Missouri National Guard Soldiers with the 294th Engineer Company work search and rescue missions in Joplin, Mo., just hours after a deadly tornado passed through.

2011 State Emergency Missions



A Soldier manning a traffic control point.



Walmart in the center of the photo.

General information regarding the storm:

- Joplin population approximately 50,175 (2010 Census)
- Day time population approximately 240,000
- Located in Southwest Missouri between U.S. Highway 71 and I-44
- EF-5 Tornado was 1/2 mile to 3/4 mile wide, and traveled approximately 13 miles
- Touched down at edge of western city limits, traveled on the ground throughout all of the City to eastern city limits plus several miles past into the City of Duquesne
- Tornado winds estimated at 200 mph plus; NWS indicates may have moved as slowly as 10 mph in some places
- Affected homes and businesses in both Jasper and Newton Counties in Missouri
- 162 lives lost due to tornado (current as of September 21, 2011)



Governor Nixon and Missouri Adjutant General survey the damage after a destructive tornado hit Joplin May 22.



Search and rescue and relief efforts were ongoing after the city was ravaged.

Residential Structures:

- Estimated 7,500 residential dwellings damaged by storm
- More than 17,000 people affected by tornado
- Approximately 4,000 homes in the Expedited Debris Removal (EDR) area (extensive and catastrophic damage as defined by FEMA) – Initially uninhabitable; causing an estimated 9,200 people to be displaced
- Approximately 3,500 more structures damaged in periphery of EDR area

2011 State Emergency Missions

The mission dealing with the immediate aftermath of the destruction became known as "Operation Southwest Twister" to the Missouri National Guard. The post aftermath of the destruction clean-up and recovery was named "Operation Phoenix" for one obvious reason, but was also named for the operational commander's unit. He was also the commander of the 110th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, "Phoenix Warriors."

The Missouri National Guard partnered with the Corps of Engineers to coordinate and monitor the contracted cleanup and debris removal process. Local subcontractors were used, bringing the local community economic relief by creating jobs. The Guard also supported Governor Jay Nixon's Missouri Disaster Recovery Jobs Program, which created more than 1,500 temporary jobs for workers who were left unemployed by the devastating tornado.



During a press conference at the National Guard Armory in Joplin, Mo., Governor Jay Nixon and Col. William A. Ward, commander of Task Force Phoenix, relay information pertaining to debris removal generated by the tornado that struck the community on May 22.



Missouri Guardsmen start the rebuilding process.



Missouri National Guardsmen assist with search and rescue missions after the EF-5 tornado that hit Joplin.

The Approximate Debris Removal Statistics:

- Tornado generated an estimated three million cubic yards of residential debris throughout the disaster area
- FEMA introduced EDR initiative, which allowed government-funded contractors to remove loose tornado debris from private property within a designated tornado-damaged area, and offered 90 percent federal match to a 10 percent local and state match for costs incurred. Nixon announced the state would pick up the 10 percent match.
- EDR area was cleared by FEMA deadline of August 7.
- As of August 7, Corps contractors removed a total of 1,462,044 CY of debris.
- Many property owners used insurance proceeds to hire contractors for debris removal; and/or utilized the 75,000 plus volunteers who had been active in the cleanup of the city.
- Estimated 1.5 million CY of debris removed in this manner. See below for exact volunteer numbers.

Other Statistics from Joplin:

- Removed debris from 206 Right-of-Entry
- Removed debris from 707 blocks
- Watering 1,686 trees (planted spring of 2012) as well as the holding nursery

2011 State Emergency Missions

Humanitarian

- Answered, redirected and logged 1,151 tornado-related calls
- Filed 6,408 permits for demolition, commercial, residential, and apartments for rebuilding
- Assisted approximately 10,968 tornado victims
- Donation processed:
 - 11 semi-trailers
 - 133 donations (varies from pick up load to semi-trailer full)
 - 1,200 large shopping carts
 - 40 box truck loads
 - 31,418 volunteer/victim families meals served
 - 149,950 lbs. of clothing picked up for distribution to victim families



The difficult job of removing the tremendous amount of debris.

Six months after the May 22 EF-5 tornado destroyed a large section of the city of Joplin, Jasper and Newton counties had received an estimated \$174 million in federal assistance provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency through various programs, according to federal recovery officials.

The Missouri National Guard still performed primary missions late into 2011, including security, traffic control points and presence patrols.

As of May 2012, 15 Citizen-Soldiers were still serving the Disaster Recovery Jobs Program as part of the Guard's Task Force Phoenix. At the height of the response, 47 Citizen-Soldiers worked for Task Force Phoenix.

At the peak of the mobilization approximately 377 Citizen-Soldiers and Citizen-Airmen supported operations in Joplin from the following units: Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 35th Engineer Brigade, Fort Leonard Wood; 110th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, Kansas City; 1107th Aviation Group, Springfield; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 203rd Engineer Battalion, Joplin; 175th Military Police Battalion, Columbia; 3-135th Aviation Battalion, of Lebanon; Company A, 935th Aviation Support

Battalion, Aurora; Forward Support Company, 1139th Military Police Company, Harrisonville; 1-138th Infantry Regiment, of Kansas City; the 220th Engineer Company (Horizontal), Festus; 276th Engineer Company (Vertical), Pierce City; 294th Engineer Company (Equipment Support), Anderson and Carthage; 117th Engineer Team (Asphalt), Monett; the 1138th Military Police Company, West Plains and Springfield; 1140th Military Police Company (Guard), Fulton and Columbia; the 70th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Jefferson City; and the Joint Operations Center at Joint Force Headquarters, Jefferson City.



One of the first acts of Colonel Ward as Commander of Task Force Phoenix, the recovery of an American flag.

2011 State Emergency Missions

- Flood Response:

On Wednesday, June 8, 2011, Governor Jay Nixon activated the Missouri National Guard with task forces assigned to the eastern and western regions of the state. In addition to the activation, the Governor also signed an executive order which directed the Missouri National Guard to coordinate and supervise the state's efforts in preparing for and responding to imminent flooding.

The need for this activation was attributed to the heavy rains and larger than expected snow melt in the northern plain states. This forced the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to release unprecedented amounts of water from upstream dams into the Missouri River. The release of the water continued for more than three months. The releases from Gavins Point Dam peaked at about 160,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) for about six weeks. This unprecedented release caused prolonged moderate and major flood stages in northwest and central Missouri. Ultimately, several levee systems experienced structural issues including overtopping and failures.

The mission the Missouri National Guard performed became known as "Operation Northern Tide," with about 500 Guardsmen on duty at the height of the operation. Guard forces responded to civil authority requests mainly with sandbagging operations, including aerial delivery, levee monitoring, security operations, quick reaction force, and commodities distribution.

It should be noted that Spc. Jordan House, 19, was a Missouri National Guardsman on state emergency duty service related to the flooding in the state. He died in a car wreck on Interstate 435 on July 25, 2011, while traveling from the Maryville armory, to the Independence armory. House was a member of Battery D, 129th Field Artillery since May 2010.

The units that supported this mission included: 110th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, Kansas City; 1-129th Field Artillery; 311th Brigade Support Battalion; 1-138th Infantry Regiment, Kansas City; 220th Engineer Company (Horizontal), Festus; 880th Engineer Company (Haul), Perryville; 35th Combat Aviation Brigade, Sedalia; 70th Troop Command; 139th Airlift Wing, St. Joseph (Rosecrans); 157th Air Operations Group, St. Louis (Jefferson Barracks); and 70th Mobile Public Affairs, Jefferson City.



The Missouri River topples its banks



An example of numerous sand boils that weaken a levee



Reinforcing a levee in Holt County

2011 State Emergency Missions



Missouri Governor Jay Nixon; Maj. Gen. Steve Danner, adjutant general of the Missouri National Guard; and Col. Gregory Mason, outside of Kansas City.



Missouri Air Guardsmen sandbagging near Rosecrans Air National Guard Base.



A Missouri National Guard Blackhawk and its crews hard at work.



The Missouri National Guard use Blackhawks to place large sandbags near problematic areas on levees to help reinforce it against the rising and raging Missouri River water.



The Missouri National Guard Adjutant General will meet with his leadership wherever he is needed.



Soldiers reinforcing a large levee in Forest City.

2011 State Emergency Missions

- Missing Child Search:

Governor Jay Nixon activated the Missouri National for one day on Oct. 16, 2011, to search for a missing Kansas City baby, 10-month-old Lisa Irwin. About 25 members from the 1139th Military Police in Harrisonville, Mo., assisted FBI agents and police officers in scouring a large wooded area with a fine-toothed comb west of the family's home. The search failed to produce any positive findings.



Soldiers from the 1139th Military Police Company assisted the FBI and local law enforcement agencies in a search for clues to the disappearance of baby Lisa Irwin on Sunday, October 16, 2011.

2012 State Emergency Mission

- Tornado Response:



After a night of severe storms that rolled through and around the Branson, Mo. area on February 29, 2012; Governor Jay Nixon immediately mobilized the Missouri National Guard to assist the civil authorities. The main support for the mission was provided by the 35th Engineer Brigade, of Fort Leonard Wood. Approximately 120 Soldiers were mobilized, the majority from the Brigade's 276th Engineer Company. The unit conducted mostly presence patrols with law enforcement units and manned traffic control points.

Citizen-Soldiers with the Missouri National Guard assisted local law enforcement in Branson, following the community's Leap Day tornado.

2013 State Emergency Missions

-Flood Response:

On April 19, 2013, Gov. Jay Nixon declared a state of emergency in Missouri after a strong storm system, which included heavy rainfall, led to flash flooding in many parts of the state. The flash flooding caused river levels to rise rapidly on the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. The governor activated the Missouri National Guard and the Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen were then deployed to assist the cities of Clarksville, Dutchtown, and other communities along the Mississippi River in the flood fight.

This mission performed by the Missouri National Guard was named “Operation Show Me Spring Tide.” A total of 118 Soldiers and Airmen, a majority of whom mobilized from the St. Louis area, provided support of the operation from April 19-27, 2013. The following Guard units were mobilized: the 121st Air Control Squadron, the 131st Civil Engineer Squadron, 70th Troop Command and the 35th Engineer Brigade of Fort Leonard Wood. These Guard units filled thousands of sandbags, constructed levees, operated water pumps and monitored levees around the clock. The Missouri National Guardsmen worked with civil authorities and local residents to ensure both Dutchtown and the historic town of Clarksville were saved from damaging flood waters.



In 2013, the Missouri National Guard proved it is “Always There, Always Ready” to assist citizens of Clarksville, returning to the town to help with flood response efforts for the first time since 2008.



Missouri National Guard Soldiers with the 1140th Forward Support Company fill sandbags in Dutchtown, Mo. The Missouri National Guard sent 118 Soldiers and Airmen to aid local flood response efforts.

2013 State Emergency Missions

Flood Response:

On August 6, 2013 Gov. Jay Nixon declared a state of emergency after heavy rains led to flash flooding and two fatalities in southern Missouri. Following the declaration, the governor activated the Missouri National Guard on August 8 to assist the communities of southern Missouri.

The Missouri National Guard deployed 70 Soldiers from 70th Troop Command and the 35th Engineer Brigade under the mission name "Operation Show Me Summer Deluge." The units assisted local civil authorities in protecting lives and property threatened in areas that were impacted by flooding. Soldiers worked alongside other state agencies including the Missouri Highway Patrol and supported civil authorities in Laclede, Miller, Phelps and Pulaski counties from August 8-10.



Photo of Highway 63 just before the water crested the bridge



A rare site of Interstate-44 floods near Jerome, Mo.



View from an airplane overlooking Highway 63



Spc. Mikenna Wick (middle) and Spc. Terry Osborne (right) brief Sgt. 1st Class Robert Lee on their morning mission at a traffic control point in Waynesville, Mo.

7th Civil Support Team

Alongside our traditional National Guard units, who typically muster one weekend a month and two weeks a year, is a non-traditional unit, the 7th Weapons of Mass Destruction - Civil Support Team (7th CST), which complements our traditional force. The 7th CST is composed of 22 full-time National Guardsmen from both the Air Force and Army. The 22 National Guardsmen in the team represent 14 military occupational specialties, and are divided into six sections: command, operations, communications, administration/logistics, medical, and survey.

Missouri's 7th CST is one of the first of 10 teams authorized in the National Defense Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1999 and set the example for the CSTs which followed. As of 2013, there are now 55 CSTs across the country, meeting the Congressional mandate of one per state/territory and the District of Columbia.

The 7th CST highlights the dual-nature of the Missouri National Guard and has been activated on multiple occasions to provide defense support to civil authorities. In the state of Missouri, as well as in states with mutual aid agreements with Missouri, Soldiers and Airmen of the 7th CST provide advice to Incident Commanders to help make assessments of the requirements for follow-on forces.



A Soldier of the 7th CST providing communications assistance for the Army Corps of Engineers at Sikeston, MO in May 2011.



Sgt. 1st Class Juan Gallego and Capt. Richard Sambolin providing security and assisting first responders during the three days of the 2012 Major League Baseball All-Star Game festivities in Kansas City.

CST Support at Sporting Events

During the World Series of 2004, 2006, 2011, and 2013 the 7th CST was asked to perform pre-event radiation monitoring of Busch Stadium, and assist with radiation and air monitoring during the World Series games played in St. Louis, MO. The 7th CST was also placed on standby in the vicinity of the stadium, to assist the St. Louis Fire Department with any Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) response aimed toward such a high-profile event. The CST was designated as the “first entry” element should an actual emergency event occur. In 2009 and 2012 the CST was asked to provide support to civil authorities to mitigate the chances of potential hazards at the Major League Baseball’s All-Star Games held in St. Louis and Kansas City, Missouri. During these events, the CST used high-tech equipment to investigate potential hazards, including mass sickness, mysterious powders and unidentified contaminations. On 22-23 May 2013, the 7th CST deployed to St Louis, Missouri, to support civil authorities at the English Premier Soccer event. At the event, the CST conducted chemical, radiological, and biological air monitoring for the safety of civilians and integrity of property by characterizing the area in and around the stadium prior and during the event.

On August 17-25, 2013, the 7th CST deployed to Sunrise Beach, Missouri in support of the Lake of the Ozarks Shootout Boat Race and set up air monitoring devices to provide safety to the large public gathering.



Missouri National Guard Soldier sweeps Busch stadium for potential contaminations

Chemical and Explosive Response

Sporting events demonstrate the proactive nature of the 7th CSTs mission. The CST, however, also trains and acts as a reactive force. One example of the CSTs mission as a reactive force came about when the Department of Natural Resources' Environmental Emergency Response Section was called out October 25, 2012 to a Howard County trailer home fire after several first responders took ill while fighting the fire. The Howard County Fire department contacted the 7th Civil Support Team, and requested them to respond and provide support hazmat personnel to set up a staging area, develop and implement an incident action plan. The team's reconnaissance and medical sections were asked to monitor the air around the trailer, which burned Monday night. They were also there to identify any possible hazards after several first responders were reported to have been exposed to chemicals during salvage and recovery operations.

Another example of the CSTs reaction to emergency requests from civil authorities came about in 2013, when the CST was called in to support local first responder and federal investigators, when a suspicious was package found on a suburban Kansas City bus. The bomb was a hoax designed to look like an improvised explosive device. Special federal agents, the National Guard and ATF were called to investigate, and a robot was used to handle the package, which was later taken apart and removed by local authorities. The 7th CST made a joint entry with the FBI bomb team to determine if the suspected bomb had radiological, biological, or chemical contents.



Members of the 7th CST respond to Meth lab in Howard County, Missouri



Robot handling package that was presumed to be an improvised explosive devise.

Chemical and Explosive Response

On Tuesday May 13, 2008, the 7th Civil Support Team was called to support Lebanon Missouri Fire Department. During the mission, the team began site survey and attempted to identify any chemicals that would be hazardous at a hospital. Employees were getting sick and the hospital could not figure out why. Multiple instruments were employed to ensure the public's safety, and attempt to identify the hazard. After three mission entries, it was noticed that the only thing that was setting off our instruments were the cleaning products found in the fitness center. The conclusion was that the wipes used to clean the equipment were causing a slow accumulation of chemicals within the facility. This caused irritant like symptoms in personnel who worked for extended periods of time in the building. No casualties were reported during this incident.

After the flood of 2008 DNR was tasked with the cleanup of the Meramec River area and solicited the assistance of the 7th WMD-CST to achieve its objective . 7th CST was divided into two groups, Group I consisted of the medical analytical personnel and Group II consisted of recon. Group I was responsible for the determining the hazard class of unknown hazardous containers. Group II was tasked to recon and collect any unknown containers. Over one thousand containers were collected and properly separated according to their hazmat category.



7th CST Soldier investigates possible IED

Executive Security

Among its multiple missions, the 7th CST has been activated on multiple occasions to provide security and communication abilities in support of our executives on both the state and national levels. In May 2012, the 7th Civil Support Team was tasked with providing support for the visit by President Barack Obama to Joplin. He conducted a speech at the commencement ceremony for Joplin High School graduates. Obama spoke on the eve of the first anniversary of the May 22 tornado, having first come to town just days after the worst tornado to hit the country in nearly 70 years. The 7th Civil Support Team's communications vehicle and the Unified Command Suite (UCS) were dispatched to provide support for the event with communications and as a back up in the event communications failed or an incident occurred. The communications section provided interoperability with military and local law enforcement assets.

In January 21, 2013, to support President Obama's inauguration more than 6,000 National Guard personnel from across the country were deployed to the District of Washington to provide a myriad of support to civil authorities. The Missouri National Guard's MSgt Anthony Gordes of the 7th Civil Support Team was specifically requested to assist in these efforts. MSgt Gordes provided communications support for the Unified Command Suite and Task Force CBRNE during the parade.

On January 14, 2013, the 7th CST was called to support the inauguration of Governor Jay Nixon as he entered his second term in office. During the inaugural festivities, the 7th CST remained on the ready stand-by at two separate locations. All team members were monitoring radio frequency and were ready to assemble at a pre-determined staging area if the call for real world event were to occur. The Inauguration went without incident and did not necessitate action from the CST.

Additional Missions

As a full-time operational National Guard force, the 7th CST may be called upon to conduct missions that are outside of their traditional scope due to their availability. This type of mission occurred on November 2, 2007, when a F-15 took off from Lambert Field at the Lambert-St. Louis International Airport in Missouri for a standard air-to-air training mission. The aircraft was scheduled to conduct basic fighter maneuver training when a malfunction occurred and caused the pilot to eject in vicinity of Boss, MO.

In order to rapidly secure the area where the aircraft came to rest the joint operations center decided to deploy the 7th CST as a Quick Reactionary Force (QRF). This allowed the QRF to be on the ground within one hour of the incident occurrence. The 7th CST was relieved in place by Missouri Air Guard Security forces from Lambert Field at the Lambert-St. Louis International Airport approximately 4 hours after incident occurrence. The versatility and adaptability of the unit was self evident as this was not a typical mission set for the 7th CST.